4th August 1955]

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, in cognizable cases, prosecutions are launched usually by the Police after investigation. I would like to know whether the Government in such cases would give legal assistance to the Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" If it is a case against a Harijan, certainly, if the case deserves to be helped, we will give assistance."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, the procedure prescribed for granting legal assistance is so circuitous and delaying that only in a very few cases assistance is granted at the proper time. Will the Government see to it that if at all they give assistance the assistance is given to the Harijans before the cases are disposed of? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes, Sir, the Government will consider that."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Since even non-Harijans are not familiar with the technicalities of the law and that free legal assistance is available, will the Government instruct the Collectors that wherever Harijans are involved assistance is volunteered to them? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" How can assistance be volunteered? If the Collectors are informed of the nature of the case, assistance will be given in deserving cases as I said."

Kudroli Bridge.

* 1919 *Q.*—SRI K. ISHWARA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the old Kudroli bridge was damaged last year within the Mangalore municipal area;

(*b*) if so, the action taken by the Government to repair the bridge;

(*c*) whether the Mangalore Municipality requested the Government to construct a new bridge in lieu of the above bridge;

(*d*) when the work will be completed; and

(*e*) whether the Mangalore Municipality submitted any estimate for the construction of a new bridge; and if so, what it is?

THE HON SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) As the bridge is on a municipal road, the municipal council has to repair or reconstruct the bridge;

" (*c*) *to* (*e*) The Municipal Council has resolved to construct a new bridge and to apply to Government for financial assistance. It has its own engineer who will prepare an estimate for the work, get it sanctioned by the competent authorities and execute the work."